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SECURITY INFORMATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR. March 1953

SUBJECT Shortage of Metals

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.

DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Regulations issued in April 1952 compelled all privately owned work-  
shops and private individuals in Poland to surrender to city purchasing  
centers all nonferrous metals in their possession. Prices paid per  
kilogram were very low. Another regulation provided for collection  
of nonferrous metals in schools by the ZMP and similar organizations.
2. In Poland there is an acute shortage of copper,<sup>1</sup> brass, tin, zinc,  
corundum, wolfram, and **silesite (sic)**, as well as of alloys made from these  
metals. There is also a lack of bronze. On the black market one  
kilogram of English high percent tin costs 160 zloty. All these  
metals are rationed because of the extreme shortage. It is very  
difficult to obtain copper or zinc sheet and brass, zinc, or copper  
wire. Also scarce are nets, screening, mesh, simple iron-wire net  
and iron wire.
3. Shops have no nails, bolts (with or without nuts), picture hooks,  
upholstery nails. Also unobtainable are chains of all types, hinges,  
door locks, door handles and keys. Hydraulic mechanics have to wait  
months for pipes, taps, etc. Iron stove pipes are frequently  
unobtainable.

1. Cf. 101991

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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